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MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH RESOLUTION

New Delhi, the 14th August 1956

No. 22/29/55-ONG.—Hitherto with the exception of certain investigations for petroleum carried out by the Geological Survey of India as part of its normal field programme, geophysical surveys, prospecting and exploitation have been carried out entirely by oil concerns to whom concessions in this behalf have been granted from time to time.

2. In pursuance of the Industrial Policy of Government it has now been decided that the Central Government also should undertake exploration, exploitation and refining of oil in the country and to create a special organisation for the adequate discharge of this responsibility, namely, Oil and Natural Gas Commission under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research.

3. The functions of the Commission will include the following:—

- (i) Advising the Central Government on matters relating to the exploration, exploitation and refining of the country's oil and natural gas resources;
- (ii) Subject to the general or specific instructions of Government (a) conducting geological and geophysical surveys for the exploration of oil; (b) conducting drilling and other prospecting operations independently or in conjunction with other Government or private organisations to prove and estimate the workable reserves of oil deposits; (c) establishing production of oil including preliminary processing and storage; (d) administration and implementation of the agreements with oil companies for joint or participatory working, inspection of oil-fields held by private concessionaries for ensuring the systematic development of oil, the elimination of waste, and the promotion of improved methods of recovery;
- (iii) Conduct of geological, chemical and other laboratory investigations in connection with the work of exploration, production or refining of oil;
- (iv) Collection and publication of statistics relating to oil and natural gas produced in the country and maintenance of information regarding world production, trade, mining rules and other related matters;
- (v) Publication of bulletins and monographs on investigations relating to oil and natural gas;
- (vi) Undertaking any other function entrusted to the Commission by the Government of India from time to time.

4. The Commission will consist initially of a Chairman and two members one of whom will be its Financial Adviser. It will be assisted by such administrative and technical staff as necessary. The Headquarters of the Commission will be at Dehra Dun.

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